NOAA NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

NOAA In Your State

Louisiana

"NOAA's science based work touches 300 million Americans daily, protecting lives and livelihoods. NOAA's products and services are the result of the hard work of our dedicated staff and partner organizations located in program and research offices throughout the globe. The following is a summary of NOAA programs based in, and focused on, your state or territory. The entries are listed by statewide, region, and then by congressional districts and cities or towns."

Dr. Kathryn Sullivan
Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator

LA

Statewide

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - Gulf of Mexico Bay-Watershed Education and Training Program
The NOAA Bay-Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Program is an environmental education program that promotes locally relevant, experiential learning in the K-12 environment. The primary delivery of B-WET is through competitive funding that promotes Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEEs). B-WET currently serves seven areas of the country: California, Chesapeake Bay, Great Lakes, Gulf of Mexico, Hawai'i, New England, and the Pacific Northwest. The Gulf of Mexico B-WET Program recognizes that knowledge and commitment built from firsthand experience, especially in the context of one's community and culture, is essential for achieving environmental stewardship. Gulf of Mexico B-WET responds to regional education and environmental priorities through local implementation of competitive grant funds. Please see the regional funding opportunity for priorities and eligibility details.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - Southeast Fisheries Science Center
NMFS studies, protects and conserves living marine resources to promote healthy, functioning marine ecosystems, afford economic opportunities and enhance the quality of life for the American public. NMFS' Southeast Regional Office (headquartered in Saint Petersburg, FL) and Southeast Fisheries Science Center (headquartered in Miami, FL) are responsible for living marine resources in federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and U.S. Caribbean. Using the authorities provided by the *Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act*, *Endangered Species Act*, *Marine Mammal Protection Act* and other federal statutes, the Southeast Regional Office and Southeast Fisheries Science Center partner to assess and predict the status of fish stocks, marine mammals and other protected resources, develop and ensure compliance with fishery regulations, restore and protect habitat, and recover threatened and endangered species in waters off Louisiana and throughout the Southeast Region.

The Southeast Regional Office conducts mandated essential fish habitat consultations associated with extensive energy and coastal development activities, participates in state and regional habitat planning and restoration efforts, provides assistance during hazardous material incidents and hurricane events, and participates in the planning processes for major federal water development projects. The Southeast Fisheries Science Center implements a multi-disciplinary science and research program in support of living marine resource management. The Science Center develops the scientific information required for fishery resource conservation; fishery development and utilization; habitat conservation; the protection of protected species; impact analyses and environmental assessments for management plans and/or international negotiations; and pursues research to answer specific needs in areas of population dynamics, fishery economics, fishery engineering, food science, and fishery biology. The Science Center has a facility in Lafayette, Louisiana.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Geodetic Advisor
The Geodetic Advisor is a jointly funded National Ocean Service (NOS) employee that resides in the state to provide liaison between NOS and the host state. The Geodetic Advisor guides and assists the state's charting, geodetic and surveying programs through technical expertise. The program is designed to fill a need for more accurate geodetic surveys, and is in response to the desire of states to improve their surveying techniques to meet Federal Geodetic Control subcommittee standards and specifications. The surveys provide the basis for all forms of mapping and engineering projects and monitoring of the dynamic Earth. This program also provides technical assistance in planning and implementing Geographic/Land Information System (GIS/LIS) projects.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Gulf of Mexico Alliance
To promote high-quality constituent service, the NOAA Office for Coastal Management Gulf staff participate on functional work groups of the Gulf of Mexico Alliance and its senior management team. This participation allows NOAA to effectively integrate its products and services with a very broad array of Gulf partners.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Regional Resource Coordinator
The Office of Response and Restoration's (OR&R) Regional Resource Coordinator (RRC) based in Baton Rouge provides scientific and technical expertise and timely response to oil spills or hazardous materials releases to collect information, samples, and evidence that are time dependent and critical to support natural resource damage assessments throughout the coastal US. Specifically, RRCs work on multi-disciplinary teams and are responsible for determining and quantifying the severity, geographic extent, and likely duration of an injury to natural resources. RRCs document the severity, geographic extent, and likely duration of the injury. The goal of the RRCs efforts is to determine the appropriate amount and type of restoration required to restore injured NOAA trust resources and compensate the public for their lost use.

National Weather Service (NWS) - Automated Surface Observing Systems Stations
The Automated Surface Observing Systems (ASOS) program is a joint effort of the National Weather Service (NWS), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and the Department of Defense (DOD). ASOS serves as the Nation's primary surface weather observing network. ASOS is designed to support weather forecast activities and aviation operations and, at the same time, support the needs of the meteorological, hydrological, and climatological research communities. ASOS works non-stop, updating observations every minute, 24 hours a day, every day of the year observing basic weather elements, such as cloud cover, precipitation, wind, sea level pressure, and conditions, such as rain, snow, freezing rain, thunderstorms, and fog. There are 21 ASOS stations in Louisiana.

National Weather Service (NWS) - Cooperative Observer Program Sites

The National Weather Service (NWS) Cooperative Observer Program (COOP) is truly the Nation's weather and climate observing network of, by and for the people. More than 10,000 volunteers take observations on farms, in urban and suburban areas, National Parks, seashores, and mountaintops. The data are representative of where people live, work and play. The COOP was formally created in 1890 under the NWS Organic Act to provide observational meteorological data, usually consisting of daily maximum and minimum temperatures, snowfall, and 24-hour precipitation totals, required to define the climate of the United States and to help measure long-term climate changes, and to provide observational meteorological data in near real-time to support forecast, warning and other public service programs of the NWS. The data are also used by other federal (including the Department of Homeland Security), state and local entities, as well as private companies (such as the energy and insurance industries). In some cases, the data are used to make billions of dollars' worth of decisions. For example, the energy sector uses COOP data to calculate the Heating and Cooling Degree Days which are used to determine individuals' energy bills monthly. There are 166 COOP sites in Louisiana.

National Weather Service (NWS) - NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards Transmitters

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information directly from the nearest National Weather Service (NWS) forecast office. NWR broadcasts official NWS warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Working with the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) Emergency Alert System, NWR is an "All Hazards" radio network, making it the single source for comprehensive weather and emergency information. In conjunction with federal, state, and local emergency managers and other public officials, NWR also broadcasts warning and post-event information for all types of hazards – including natural (such as earthquakes or avalanches), environmental (such as chemical releases or oil spills), and public safety (such as AMBER alerts or 911 Telephone outages). Known as the "Voice of NOAA's National Weather Service," NWR is provided as a public service by the NWS. NWR includes 1,100 transmitters covering all 50 states, adjacent coastal waters, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the U.S. Pacific Territories. There are 11 NWR transmitters in Louisiana.

Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) - Sea Grant College Program

NOAA's National Sea Grant College Program is a federal-university partnership that integrates research, education and outreach (extension and communications). Sea Grant forms a network of 33 programs in all U.S. coastal and Great Lakes states, Puerto Rico and Guam. Louisiana Sea Grant promotes the wise use of marine and coastal resources through research, education, advisory services, and technology transfer. Based at Louisiana State University (LSU), Louisiana Sea Grant was instrumental in the establishment and development of LSU's M.S. and Ph.D. programs in the marine sciences and also played a key role in the creation and nurturing of LSU research groups now known as the School of the Coast and Environment. Current research projects address problems or issues in four major categories that have been identified as especially pertinent to state, regional, and national needs: healthy coastal ecosystems, sustainable coastal development, safe and sustainable seafood supply and hazard resilience in coastal communities. Examples include oyster and fish diseases, essential fish habitat, seafood safety and processing, coastal ecosystem management, coastal economic development, and freshwater diversion for coastal restoration. The program provides information and outreach services to a variety of users, including coastal communities, seafood processors, aquaculturists, fishermen, educators, legislators and coastal policy makers, coastal tourism and recreation interests, and a wide cross-section of Gulf of Mexico-region citizens whose livelihoods depend on coastal and marine resources. The program's technology transfer activities bring the results of Sea Grant research to the private sector for commercial application.

Coastal

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - Restoration Center

The NOAA Restoration Center is devoted to restoring the nation's coastal ecosystems and preserving diverse and abundant marine life. Our projects help recover threatened and endangered species, support the sustainable management of species, and reverse the damage done by oil spills and toxic releases. The Louisiana field office is located in Baton Rouge. The Restoration Center also collaborates with other agencies, industry, and citizens to protect and restore coastal and marine resources in Louisiana threatened or injured by oil spills, releases of hazardous substances, and vessel groundings. On behalf of the Department of Commerce, the NOAA Restoration Center is leading planning and construction of restoration in response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. In Louisiana, the NOAA Restoration Center funds and implements large-scale restoration projects through the Coastal Wetland Planning, Protection and Restoration Act, to ensure healthy and sustainable coastal habitat for Louisiana's fisheries. To date, nearly 11,000 acres of coastal habitat—primarily wetlands and barrier islands—have been restored by NOAA and an additional 4000 acres have been protected. Through the Restoration Center's Community-based Restoration Program, an additional 50 projects have been funded in Louisiana since 1996, resulting in more than 4,700 acres of restored habitat.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - Species Recovery Program

Under the authority of section 6 of the Endangered Species Act, the Cooperation with States Program brings states, NMFS, and other partners together to recover threatened and endangered species. Competitive grants are awarded to states through the Species Recovery Grants to States Program to support management, monitoring, research and outreach efforts for species that spend all or a portion of their life cycle in state waters. The funded work is designed to prevent extinctions or reverse the decline of species, and restore ecosystems and their related socioeconomic benefits. Twenty-five coastal states, including Louisiana and U.S. territories, currently participate in this program.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - National Marine Mammal Stranding Network and John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant Program

The National Marine Mammal Stranding Network and its trained professionals respond to dead or live marine mammals in distress that are stranded, entangled, out of habitat or otherwise in peril. Our long-standing partnership with the Network provides valuable environmental intelligence, helping NOAA establish links among the health of marine mammals, coastal ecosystems, and coastal communities as well as develop effective conservation programs for marine mammal populations in the wild. There are two stranding network members in the state. NOAA Fisheries funds eligible members of the Stranding Network through the competitive John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant Program. Since 2001, $48.2 million has been awarded to 552 grantees who raised over $15.9 million in matching funds. In FY15, 34 grantees received $2.7 million nationwide, with one award going to Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - Sea Turtle Salvage and Stranding Network

The Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network (STSSN) was formally established in 1980 to collect information on and document strandings of marine turtles along the U.S. Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic coasts. The network, which includes federal, state and private partners, encompasses the coastal areas of the eighteen-state region from Maine to Texas, and includes portions of the U.S. Caribbean. Data gathered by the Network helps inform bycatch reduction efforts, track factors affecting turtle health, and provide other information needed for sea turtle management and population recovery.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - Fishery Statistics Office

Field agents serve as the principle data collection agent for marine fisheries throughout the Southeast United States (NC-TX). They implement and coordinate surveys involving the collection of fishery related data from the public. Responsibilities and functions are to develop, implement, operate, and manage an integrated fishery statistical data acquisition program for research and fishery management. In Louisiana, field agents are stationed in Gretna, Lafayette, and Houma.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - PORTS®
A Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System (PORTS®) is operated cooperatively with the Port of Morgan City at the entrance and along the Atchafalaya River where real-time data are quality-controlled and disseminated to local users for safe and efficient navigation. Real-time data are available for water levels at three stations with meteorological sensors, currents from one station and salinity and relative humidity data at one location.

A Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System (PORTS®) is operated cooperatively with the local maritime community in the Lower Mississippi River at which real-time data are quality-controlled and disseminated to local users for safe and efficient navigation. Real-time data are available for water levels at three station, currents from two stations, air gap data from two stations, and meteorological data from two stations.

A Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System (PORTS®) is operated cooperatively with Port Fourchon along the Gulf Coast where real-time data are quality-controlled and disseminated to local users for safe and efficient navigation. Real-time data are available for one water level for this PORTS®.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - National Water Level Observation Network
The National Ocean Service (NOS) operates ten long-term, continuously operating tide stations in the state of Louisiana that provide data and information on tidal datum and relative sea level trends, and are capable of producing real-time data for storm surge warning. These stations are located at Pilots Station, SW Pass; Shell Beach, Lake Borgne; Grand Isle; USCG New Canal Station; I-10 Bonnet Carre Floodway; East Bank 1, Bayou LaBranche; Berwick, LAWMA, Alameda Pass; Freshwater Canal Locks; Lake Charles; and Calcasieu Pass. Many of these stations also include meteorological sensors as well. There is also a meteorological station at Frenier Landing. Each station is associated with a set of tidal benchmarks installed in the ground that is used to reference the height of the water levels and helps connect the water level to land.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Navigation Manager
NOAA's navigation managers work directly with pilots, port authorities, and recreational boating organizations in Louisiana to help identify the navigational challenges facing marine transportation in Louisiana and provide NOAA's resources and services that promote safe and efficient navigation. Navigation managers are on call to provide expertise and NOAA navigation response coordination in case of severe coastal weather events or other marine emergencies. The Office of Coast Survey has a Navigation Manager located in Lafayette, LA to support mariners and stakeholders in Central Gulf Coast waters.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program
The Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP) brings conservation partners together to protect coastal and estuarine lands considered important for their ecological, conservation, recreational, historical, or aesthetic values. To date CELCP has protected more than 100,000 acres of land nationally and awarded seven grants in Louisiana. The program provides state and local governments with matching funds to purchase significant coastal and estuarine lands, or conservation easements on these important lands that are threatened by development. Lands or conservation easements acquired with CELCP funds are protected in perpetuity so that they may be enjoyed by future generations. CELCP has created an interactive map highlighting information about completed projects in your state.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Coastal Management Program
Through a unique Federal-state partnership, NOAA's Office for Coastal Management works with the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources to implement the National Coastal Zone Management Program in Louisiana. NOAA's Office for Coastal Management provides the coastal management program with financial and technical assistance to further the goals of the Coastal Zone Management Act and ensure our coastal waters and lands are used in a balanced way to support jobs, reduce use conflicts, and sustain natural resources.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Gulf of Mexico Environmental Response Management Application
Assessing important spatial information and designing successful restoration projects rely upon interpreting and mapping geographic information, including the location, duration, and impacts from oil spills, other hazardous materials, or debris released into the environment. Gulf of Mexico ERMA® is an online mapping tool that integrates both static and real-time data, such as Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) maps, ship locations, weather, and ocean currents, in a centralized, easy-to-use format for environmental responders and decision makers. Gulf of Mexico ERMA integrates this key information to support environmental and severe-weather responses in the Gulf of Mexico, for example, during the Hurricane Isaac response in 2012.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Marine Debris Projects and Partnerships
The NOAA Marine Debris Program (MDP) leads national and international efforts to research, prevent, and reduce the impacts of marine debris. The program supports marine debris removal, education and outreach, and research projects in partnership with state and local agencies, tribes, non-governmental organizations, academia, and industry. The MDP is partnering with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to remove derelict blue crab traps from the Pontchartrain, Barataria, and Terebonne Basins.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System
The U.S**.** Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS)® Program is an operational system and a network of regional partners responsible for regional observations, data management, modeling and analysis, education and outreach, and research and development. The overarching purpose of U.S. IOOS is to address regional and national needs for ocean data and information. The Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System (GCOOS) seeks to establish a sustained observing system for the Gulf of Mexico that will provide observations and products needed by users in the region for the purposes of detecting and predicting climate variability and consequences, preserving and restoring healthy marine ecosystems, ensuring human health, managing resources, facilitating safe and efficient marine transportation, enhancing national security, and predicting and mitigating against coastal hazards.

National Weather Service (NWS) - Buoys
The National Weather Service (NWS), through its National Data Buoy Center (NDBC), develops, deploys, operates, and maintains the current national data buoy network of moored and drifting weather buoys and land stations that serve all of the Nation's coastal states and territories. Within this network, 110 of the buoys and 51 of the land stations are maintained directly by NDBC. Located at NASA's Stennis Space Center in Mississippi, supports weather and marine warning and forecast services in real time by providing deep ocean and coastal meteorological and oceanographic observations. These data provide valuable information used by NWS supercomputers to produce computer-generated model forecasts of the atmosphere and climate. NDBC manages the Volunteer Observing Ship program to acquire additional meteorological and oceanographic observations supporting NWS mission requirements. NDBC also supports operational and research programs of NOAA and other national and international organizations.

LA-1
Slidell

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - Office of Law Enforcement

NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement is the only conservation enforcement program (Federal or State) that is exclusively dedicated to Federal fisheries and marine resource enforcement. Its mission is to protect global marine resources by enforcing domestic laws and international treaties and obligations dedicated to protecting wildlife and their natural habitat. Our special agents and enforcement officers ensure compliance with these laws and take enforcement action if there are violations. Additionally, the Cooperative Enforcement Program allows NOAA the ability to leverage the resources and assistance of 27 coast states and U.S. territorial marine conservation law enforcement agencies in direct support of the Federal enforcement mission. Effective fisheries law enforcement is critical to creating a level playing field for U.S. fishermen and enabling sustainable fisheries to support vibrant coastal communities. The Slidell field office is part of OLE's Southeast Division.

National Weather Service (NWS) - Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center

Co-located with the NWS Weather Forecast Office in Slidell the Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center (RFC) performs continuous river basin modeling and provides hydrologic forecast and guidance products for rivers and streams in has responsibility for all drainage and tributaries of the Mississippi River basin below Chester, Illinois, including most of Louisiana, Arkansas, Tennessee, and Mississippi. These products include forecasts of river stage and flow, probabilistic river forecasts, reservoir inflow forecasts, gridded precipitation estimates and forecasts, spring flood outlooks, and flash flood and headwater guidance. Some of the RFCs in the western and central U.S. also provide water supply forecasts. RFCs work closely with local, state and federal water management agencies , including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and U.S. Geological Survey, to provide water and flood information for critical decisions (aka Impact-based Decision-Support Services or IDSS).

National Weather Service (NWS) - Weather Forecast Office

Co-located with the NWS Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center in Slidell, this NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) is staffed around-the-clock every day, and provides the best possible weather, water, and climate forecasts and warnings to residents of southeastern Louisiana and several of Mississippi's most southern counties. Highly trained forecasters issue warnings and forecasts for events, including severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, winter storms, floods, and heat waves. This essential information is provided to the general public, media, emergency management and law enforcement officials, the aviation and marine communities, agricultural interests, businesses, and others. Information is disseminated in many ways, including through dedicated government channels, satellite, the Internet, and NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards.

Forecasters also provide Impact-based Decision-Support Services (IDSS), both remotely and on-site, during critical emergencies, such as wildfires, floods, chemical spills, and for major recovery efforts such as those following the Joplin and Moore tornadoes, Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy, and the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington D.C. The WFO collects and disseminates precipitation, river, and rainfall data, and prepares local climatological data. Each WFO has a Warning Coordination Meteorologist who actively conducts outreach and educational programs, which helps build strong working relationships with local partners in emergency management, government, the media and academic communities. The WFO operates Automated Surface Observing Stations (ASOS), as well as the local Doppler Weather Radar, which provides critical information about current weather conditions. The radar data enables forecasters to issue warnings for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, and flash floods.

LA-2

New Orleans

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Scientific Support Coordinator

NOAA's Emergency Response Division (ERD) brings decades of experience, technical expertise and scientific analysis in response to oil and hazardous chemical spills. In addition to events that draw the national eye like Deepwater Horizon, ERD also supports response to local emergencies like more than a dozen incidents along the Louisiana coast including the Hercules 265 rig explosion in 2013. Nine regionally based Scientific Support Coordinators (SSCs) harness the input of a multi-disciplinary team to address issues such as oil slick trajectory forecasting, environmental tradeoffs, best practices, resources at risk, oil science and properties, and chemical hazard assessment to reduce risks to coastal habitats and resources. ERD has earned a reputation for rapid, well thought out and cost effective environmental protection decisions. For spills in Louisiana the SSC based in New Orleans, LA works directly with U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to provide critical scientific support to the Federal On-Scene Coordinator. ERD also helps develop preparedness plans that identify spill response actions with the greatest environmental benefit and trains hundreds of members of the response community each year on the scientific and technical aspects of spills.

LA-3

Lake Charles

National Weather Service (NWS) - Weather Forecast Office

Located at Lake Charles Regional Airport, this NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) is staffed around-the-clock every day, and provides the best possible weather, water, and climate forecasts and warnings to residents of southwestern Louisiana and a portion of southeastern. Highly trained forecasters issue warnings and forecasts for events, including severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, winter storms, floods, and heat waves. This essential information is provided to the general public, media, emergency management and law enforcement officials, the aviation and marine communities, agricultural interests, businesses, and others. Information is disseminated in many ways, including through dedicated government channels, satellite, the Internet, and NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards.

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St. Charles Parish

National Ocean Service (NOS) - St. Charles Parish Water Level Monitoring System

The National Ocean Service (NOS), in cooperation with St. Charles Parish, operates a water level monitoring system to provide primarily storm surge data to the parish Emergency Management Office (EMO). Two long-term stations at Bayou Gauche and Bayou LaBranche, along with the NOS NWLON stations at Grand Isle and Southwest Pass, provide water level and meteorological data directly to the EMO and to NOS.

Lafayette

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - Estuarine Habitats and Coastal Fisheries Center

Located within the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Research Park, this state-of-the art facility provides scientific information on management of commercial and recreational shellfish and finfish, conservation of coastal habitats, protection of threatened and endangered marine species, and protection of coastal wetlands (under the *Coastal Wetlands Planning Protection and Restoration Act*). The Estuarine Habitats and Coastal Fisheries Center also houses the Marine Mammal Molecular Genetics Lab.

Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) - Northern Gulf Institute

NGI was established at Stennis Space Center, Mississippi, in October 2006. NGI is a consortium of universities led by Mississippi State University, in partnership with the University of Southern Mississippi, Louisiana State University, Florida State University, and Dauphin Island Sea Lab. The fundamental philosophy of NGI is integration: integration of the land-coast-ocean-atmosphere continuum; integration of research to operations; and integration of individual academic institutional strengths into a holistic research and educational program specifically geared to the needs of Northern Gulf of Mexico users.

Among NGI's major NOAA research collaborators are the National Weather Service, the Office for Coastal Management, the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory, the National Ocean Service (NOS), the National Coastal Data Development Center, the National Data Buoy Center, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the National Sea Grant Office. NGI conducts research under four scientific themes, focusing on the northern Gulf of Mexico: (1) ecosystem management; (2) geospatial data integration and visualization in environmental science; (3) climate change and climate variability effects on regional ecosystems; and (4) coastal hazards.

Lafayette/St. Martinville

National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS) and Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) - U.S. Climate Reference Network

The U.S. Climate Reference Network (USCRN) is an operationally viable research network of 134 climate stations that are deployed nationwide. Data from the USCRN are used in various climate monitoring activities and for placing current climate anomalies into an historical perspective. The USCRN provides the United States with a reference network that contributes to an International network under the auspices of the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS).

LA-4

Shreveport

National Weather Service (NWS) - Weather Forecast Office

Located at Shreveport Regional Airport, this NWS Weather Forecast Office (WFO) is staffed around-the-clock every day, and provides the best possible weather, water, and climate forecasts and warnings to residents of northwestern Louisiana, southwestern Arkansas, northeastern Texas, and extreme southeastern Oklahoma. Highly trained forecasters issue warnings and forecasts for events, including severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, winter storms, floods, and heat waves. This essential information is provided to the general public, media, emergency management and law enforcement officials, the aviation and marine communities, agricultural interests, businesses, and others. Information is disseminated in many ways, including through dedicated government channels, satellite, the Internet, and NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards.

Forecasters also provide Impact-based Decision-Support Services (IDSS), both remotely and on-site, during critical emergencies, such as wildfires, floods, chemical spills, and for major recovery efforts such as those following the Joplin and Moore tornadoes, Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy, and the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington D.C. The WFO collects and disseminates precipitation, river, and rainfall data, and prepares local

climatological data. Each WFO has a Warning Coordination Meteorologist who actively conducts outreach and educational programs, which helps build strong working relationships with local partners in emergency management, government, the media and academic communities. The WFO operates Automated Surface Observing Stations (ASOS), as well as the local Doppler Weather Radar, which provides critical information about current weather conditions. The radar data enables forecasters to issue warnings for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, and flash floods.

LA-5

Monroe

National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS) and Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) - U.S. Climate Reference Network

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LA-6

Baton Rouge

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - Field Office

The Baton Rouge Field Office is located on the campus of Louisiana State University. This Office is responsible for implementing NMFS's habitat protection programs in Louisiana and Mississippi and in the adjacent Gulf of Mexico. In addition to conducting mandated essential fish habitat consultations associated with extensive energy and coastal development activities, the Office participates in state and regional habitat planning groups focusing on streamlining Gulf environmental compliance efforts for proposed Gulf restoration projects, and participates in the planning processes for major federal flood damage control and water development projects, such as storm protection levees, locks, flood gates, and port expansions. Additionally, this Office supports Coastal Wetland Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act (Breaux Act) implementation activities, restoring barrier islands and thousands of acres of wetlands lost in Louisiana.

National Ocean Service (NOS) - Louisiana Spatial Reference Center

Partnering with NOAA, the Louisiana Spatial Reference Center (LSRS) serves as a new way of providing a spatial referencing liaison between Federal and local authorities. The Center is affiliated with Center for GeoInformatics at Louisiana State University. The mission of the Center is to provide the necessary geodetic services to ensure the availability of accurate, consistent, and timely spatial referencing data for Louisiana. LSRC is building a statewide network of high precision Global Positioning System (GPS) receivers, termed GULFNET, which will tie to the National Spatial Reference System, pinpoint the location of subsidence, and measure exactly how fast the coast is sinking. Additional activities include: assisting NOAA in conducting aerial photography surveys and elevation surveys of Hurricane Evacuation routes; assisting NOAA in mapping the coastal regions of Louisiana and providing data for navigational charts; assisting NOAA in developing specifications and guidelines for GPS surveys and, educating users about spatial referencing issues.

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More information for those offices may be found at [NOAA.gov].

NOAA In Your State

Louisiana

NOAA NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE